

155079

Monsanto

FROM
(NAME-LOCATION-PHONE)

W. G. Krummrich Plant (2429)

DATE : November 14, 1980

cc: H.W. Curtis
S.G. Collins A3ND
J.H. Craddock B2SC
P.S. Park E2NE
W.B. Papageorge G4WA
R.H. Sinise

SUBJECT : "DEAD CREEK"

REFERENCE :

TO : J.W. Molloy

I tried to call John Renkes, Supervisor of the Emergency Response Unit of the Illinois EPA on Wednesday, November 12. He was unavailable until this afternoon. Our conversation was relaxed and friendly. There was no apparent tenseness or threatening mood or manner. I had prepared my comments in advance but talked in a two-way conversational manner.

The following is the scenario I followed:

Last Friday on an informal basis, you asked if Monsanto as a good neighbor, would consider assisting in the mitigation of the Dead Creek problem. I understood mitigation to mean remove the soil and dispose of it in a federally approved controlled site at Monsanto's expense.

We have considered this and we are not interested in participating in such a program.

As I stated Friday, we do not believe our plant caused the presence of PCB's in Dead Creek. I noted that the PCB manufacturing unit started operation in 1936 and the Sauget Village sewer system was completed in 1932. Therefore, no PCB's could escape to any surrounding area.

I still believe the cause of PCB's being present is most probably the midnight hauler.

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J.W. Moiloy
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In thinking this whole situation over, it seems to me to be premature to talk about clean-up operation until more information is available. Since the water sample from the florist's well indicates no PCB's present, it would appear ground water contamination is not a problem. It would seem to me that the EPA's most viable course of action is to consider capping the creek with dirt.

We continue to offer our analytical services in any appropriate way. Our labs seem to be in close agreement on PCB's but your labs appeared to have some problem with elemental phosphorus.

John commented on "mitigation" and "removal of soil" that there are other ways but the EPA historically does not like to cover up hazardous wastes.

To our polite "we are not interested", he responded that at least they know where they stand. I repeat, this was a friendly non-threatening response. I would speculate that this does not mean we will never see the request again.

Please advise if there are any questions.

Paul E. Heisler 

/tm

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